

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

May 20, 2003

Our region has a diverse economy, which is dependent on a reliable water supply. While the County of Los Angeles remains heavily dependent upon its imported water sources, our local supplies are becoming more important. The imported supply sources are becoming less dependable, due to water quality, environmental concerns, and drought cycles. In efforts to achieve a more reliable water supply, our water managers have focused on developing a mix of complementary water resources. As part of the development of these local resources, our area has led the way in conservation and in the use of recycled waters.

To meet projected water demands and to help drought proof our area, we need to more fully make use of our locally available water supplies. The use of recycled water is one area of water management available to do this. The State of California has made water recycling an important element of California's water supply policy. The State Department of Water Resources convened the 2002 Recycled Water Task Force

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to advise the Department in investigating opportunities for using recycled water and in identifying impediments and constraints to increasing the use of recycled water. A draft report is currently out for review. Their final report is due to the Legislature by July 1, 2003.

Water from our local reclamation plants is readily available but is not being fully utilized. These waters are highly treated, making them safe for non-potable permitted uses. They are strictly regulated by State and local agencies, and their use must comply with a set of laws and regulations requiring a high level of quality and treatment to fully protect human health. Recycled water can also be provided to users at less cost than imported water. Pubic Works uses recycled water for groundwater recharge and for use in our seawater barriers. Current uses by others within the County of Los Angeles include industrial processes, landscape irrigation, recreation, and wildlife habitat maintenance. However, we do not appear to have a County policy on the use of recycled water at County facilities.

Recognizing water's importance to our economic prosperity and the quality of life enjoyed by our citizens

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that:

1. Instruct Public Works, working with Parks and Recreation, the Chief Administrative Office, and other appropriate departments, to review what current policies exist for use of recycled water at County facilities; and if no policy exists, to recommend one to our Board.

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2. Instruct Public Works to review the State's 2002 Recycled Water Task Force's draft report and make any appropriate recommendations to our Board.
3. Instruct Public Works to report back to the Board within 90 days.

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